

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
30 June 2005 (30.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/058944 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C07K 7/00**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/041639

(22) International Filing Date:  
13 December 2004 (13.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/529,025 12 December 2003 (12.12.2003) US

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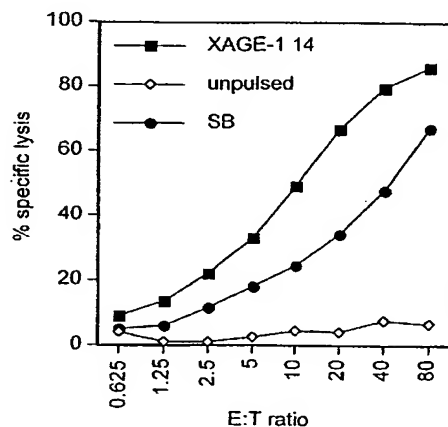
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,

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(54) Title: **IMMUNOGENIC PEPTIDES OF XAGE-1**



(57) Abstract: XAGE-1 is a gene expressed in a number of important human cancers, including prostate cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, glioblastoma, pancreatic cancer, and melanoma. It has now been discovered that peptides of fifty or fewer amino acids comprising the sequence  $X_1X_2X_3PSAPSPX_4$  (SEQ ID NO:5), where  $X_1$  is any amino acid and is preferably G or Y;  $X_2$  is selected from the group consisting of L, M, A, I, V, and T, with L and M being preferred;  $X_3$  is a hydrophobic residue, M or A; and  $X_4$  is V, M, L, A, I, or T, and is preferably V, bind to the HLA-A2 MHC class I molecule, and can be used to raise immune responses to XAGE-1-expressing cancers. In some embodiments, the P at position 7, the S at position 8, or the P at position 9, can be omitted to create a 9 amino acid peptide. The invention provides immunogenic peptides, nucleic acids encoding them, vectors comprising the nucleic acids, uses of the peptides and nucleic acids for manufacture of medicaments, methods of using the peptides and nucleic acids, and compositions of the peptides or nucleic acids in pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.



FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,  
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,  
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— without international search report and to be republished  
upon receipt of that report

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

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